

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: PRESS SUMMARY, JUNE 17

1. CSM (PAGE 1) HEADLINE "NEW SOVIET MISSILE COMPLICATES SALT TALKS" DATELINE LONDON. SOVIET UNION'S DETERMINATION TO CATCH UP ON MIRV TECHNOLOGY AND APPLY BIG MIRV WARHEADS TO THEIR HEAVIER THROW-WEIGHT ICBM'S COULD SERIOUSLY DISTURB THE STRATEGIC BALANCE AND CASTS A LONG SHADOW ON SALT. CERTAIN SOVIET LAUNCH SITES WHICH PREVIOUSLY ACCOMMODATED THE OLDER SS-9 NOW HAVE BEEN MODIFIED TO HOUSE LARGER DIAMETER SSX-18.

2. CSM (PAGE 1) HEADLINE "SOVIET PLAN TO LAND ON VENUS, PETROV SAYS" BY ELIZABETH POND. BORIS N. PETROV, IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION, INDICATED SOVIETS WILL ATTEMPT SOME KIND OF LANDING ON VENUS, AND THAT NO AMERICAN ASTRONAUTS WILL BE ABLE TO HITCH HIKE ABOARD SOVIET SPACECRAFT DURING AMERICA'S POST-APOLLO 1975-79 HIATUS.

3. SUN (PAGE 1) HEADLINE "BUDGET CUTS AND LAYOFFS CREATE CRISIS AT RADIO FREE EUROPE - WILL WEST'S BROACASTS TO EAST DIE?" BY GENE OISHI, DATELINE MUNICH. RFE IS UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 141744

UNDERGOING CRISIS OF CONFIDENCE AND MORALE AFTER BEING HIT BY A BUDGETARY SQUEEZE AND ANOTHER WAVE OF LAYOFFS. SAME COULD BE TRUE OF RADIO LIBERTY, BUT NEXT ROUND OF LAYOFFS WILL FALL MOST HEAVILY ON RFE. CONCERN IS

NOT ONLY FOR EFFECT ON PROGRAMMING BUT ALSO RESEARCH -
RADIO LIBERTY, FOR INSTANCE, HAS GROWING COLLECTION
OF SAMIZDAT WHICH, IT IS CLAIMED, IS MORE COMPLETE
THAN WHAT THE KGB HAS. ONE BROADCASTER NOTED MOSCOW
INCREASING FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS AND
CUTBACK ON US BROADCASTS WOULD BE ONE-SIDED CONCESSION
TO SOVIET UNION.

4. NYT (PAGE 2) HEADLINE "SOVIET STUDY FINDS MORE
PREMARITAL SEX" BY CHRISTOPHER WREN. IN USSR, 28 OUT
OF 100 MARRIAGES NOW END IN DIVORCE AND ONE OUT OF TEN
BIRTHS IS ILLEGITIMATE; AMONG MANY YOUNGER PEOPLE
PREMARITAL AND EXTRAMARITAL SEX IS BECOMING THE NORM
RATHER THAN THE EXCEPTION. ARTICLE IN NASH
SOVREMENNICK CONCLUDED THAT "THE FAMILY IS NOW LIVING
THROUGH VERY SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES"; DANGER IS THAT
THIS CHANGE CONTRIBUTES TO FALLING BIRTH RATE AND
JEOPARDIZES PLANS FOR ECONOMIC PROGRESS. KISSINGER

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